

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 207260

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. TURKEY PLANS TO PROSECUTE TERRORISTS

ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER OZTURK TOLD AMBASSADOR MACOMBER THE
TERRORISTS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ATTACK AT ISTANBUL'S AIRPORT
WILL NOT BE EXTRADITED AND WILL BE TRIED FOR HOMICIDE.
OZTURK SAID:

--THE TERRORISTS' ACTION IS A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY.

--THERE CAN BE NO EXTRADITION FOR POLITICAL CRIMES.
THE DECISION ON WHAT CONSTITUTES A POLITICAL CRIME
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RESTS WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY.

--WHEN THE TURKISH NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL DECIDED TO PROSECUTE IT ACCEPTED THE RISK OF PROBABLE RETALIATION.

--THE PROSECUTOR IS ASKING FOR A DEATH SENTENCE SINCE THE CRIME WAS PLANNED AND CARRIED OUT "WITH MALICE AFORETHOUGHT."

--HOMICIDE IN THIS CASE CORRESPONDS TO MURDER IN THE US SYSTEM. (CONFIDENTIAL) ANKARA 6356, 8/19.)

2. PORTUGUESE-ISRAELI RELATIONS

FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON TOLD AMBASSADOR TOON AUGUST 16 THAT HE DOES NOT EXPECT ANY PROGRESS IN THE NORMALIZATION OF PORTUGUESE-ISRAELI RELATIONS IN THE NEAR FUTURE, AS PRIME MINISTER SOARES' PUBLIC STATEMENT OF INTENT TO ESTABLISH RELATIONS HAD GENERATED PRESSURE FROM SEVERAL ARAB GOVERNMENTS. (CONFIDENTIAL) TEL AVIV 5624, 8/17.)

3. JDL MEMBERS INDICTED IN NEW YORK

FOUR MEMBERS OF THE JEWISH DEFENSE LEAGUE (JDL) HAVE BEEN INDICTED IN NEW YORK ON CHARGES OF FIRING SHOTS AT THE SOVIET MISSION AND ATTEMPTING TO BOMB THE IRAQI MISSION. ACCORDING TO USUN, THE SUSPECTS ALSO FACE A FEDERAL INDICTMENT ON CHARGES OF TRANSPORTING FIREARMS ACROSS STATE LINES AND CONSPIRING TO HARASS THE SOVIET AND OTHER FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS. (UNCLASSIFIED) USUN 3327, 8/19.)

4. LIBERIA: TOLBERT AGAIN BREAKS OAU RANKS?

PRESIDENT TOLBERT RECEIVED A TRANSKEI DELEGATION AUGUST 9 AND INDICATED THAT THE DELEGATION'S INVITATION FOR HIM TO ATTEND THE OCTOBER 26 TRANSKEI INDEPENDENCE CEREMONIES WOULD BE "DULY CONSIDERED."

EMBASSY COMMENT: WHILE TOLBERT'S ACTIONS ARE AT VARIANCE WITH THE OAU RESOLUTION URGING MEMBERS NOT TO ESTABLISH

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CONTACT WITH THE TRANSKEI, THEY DEMONSTRATE ONCE AGAIN HIS DETERMINATION TO EXERCISE A MODERATE ROLE IN SOUTHERN AFRICAN MATTERS. IT SEEMS UNLIKELY THAT TOLBERT WOULD ACCEPT THE INVITATION TO THE INDEPENDENCE CEREMONIES IF HE WERE THE ONLY OAU CHIEF OF STATE IN ATTENDANCE. IT IS POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, THAT HE WOULD JOIN OTHERS IN ATTENDING, JUST AS HE EARLIER RECEIVED VORSTER AFTER THE IVORY COAST AND MALAWI HAD INITIATED A DIALOGUE WITH SOUTH AFRICA.

(CONFIDENTIAL) MONROVIA 5933, 8/19.)

5. MOZAMBIQUE: SITHOLE'S STAR ASCENDING

REVEREND NDABANINGA SITHOLE, THE LEADER OF THE AFRICAN NATIONAL COUNCIL (ANC) AND THE ZIMBABWE AFRICAN NATIONAL UNION (ZANU), TOLD BRITISH AMBASSADOR LEWEN IN MAPUTO AUGUST 18 THAT THE EFFORTS OF MACHEL AND OTHER FRONT-LINE

PRESIDENTS TO CREATE A NEW THIRD FORCE LEADERSHIP FOR THE ZIMBABWEAN LIBERATION STRUGGLE HAD BEEN A MISTAKE AND HAD FAILED. EMBASSY MAPUTO REPORTS THAT SITHOLE:

--SAID MACHEL APPEARED READY TO THROW MOZAMBIQUE'S SUPPORT BEHIND ZANU, WHICH HAS THE WIDEST POPULAR FOLLOWING AND THE MOST EFFECTIVE MILITARY ORGANIZATION;

--ADMITTED THAT A POWER STRUGGLE WAS BEING WAGED WITHIN THE ANC AND ZANU, BUT MAINTAINED THAT HE AND BISHOP MUZEREWA WERE STILL WORKING TOGETHER; AND

--EXPRESSED SUSPICION OVER US EFFORTS IN RHODESIA, ALLEGING THAT THE US WANTS TO INSTALL NKOMO AND ZAPU.

EMBASSY COMMENT: IF MACHEL IS PREPARED TO BET ON ZANU, THE QUESTION ARISES AS TO WHICH ZANU LEADER HE WOULD PREFER. ACCORDING TO AVAILABLE INFORMATION, THE CHOICE IS STILL OPEN AND BOTH SITHOLE AND MUGABLE ARE IN THE RUNNING. (CONFIDENTIAL) MAPUTO 932, 8/19.)

6. AMERICAN FIRM CONFISCATED IN ETHIOPIA

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ON AUGUST 16 THE EPMG CONFISCATED MOSVOLD COMPANY (ETHIOPIA) LTD. MOSVOLD, ADDIS ABABA'S LARGEST DEPARTMENT STORE, IS 51 PERCENT AMERICAN-OWNED AND 49 PERCENT NORWEGIAN. THE FIRM IS CHARGED WITH VARIOUS VIOLATIONS OF ETHIOPIAN LAW INCLUDING: OPENING AN ILLEGAL FOREIGN BANK ACCOUNT; DELIBERATELY ALLOWING A DECLINE IN BUSINESS ACTIVITIES; DESTROYING RECORDS; FAILING TO PAY TAXES; AND CONDUCTING A VILIFICATION CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE EPMG.

EMBASSY COMMENT: THIS IS THE FIRST TIME A FOREIGN-OWNED FIRM HAS BEEN CONFISCATED RATHER THAN NATIONALIZED. THE FIRM'S LEGAL RECOURSE TO COMPENSATION IS THEREFORE UNCLEAR. THE EPMG IS PROBABLY NOT AWARE IN FACT THAT MOSVOLD IS MAJORITY AMERICAN-OWNED. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE) ADDIS ABABA 9719, 8/19.) ROBINSON

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